

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 249639

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:CENTO, PFOR

SUBJECT:POLITICAL WORKING GROUP - TURKISH PROPOSALS ON
REVISION THREE

REF: ANKARA 7524

1. AS A GENERAL PRINCIPLE WE PREFER THAT U.S. REPRESENTA-
TIVES PLAY AS PASSIVE A ROLE AS POSSIBLE ON DISCUSSIONS
CONCERNING REVISIONS ON POLITICAL GUIDANCE. THIS TACTIC
IS CONSISTENT WITH OUR LONG HELD POSITION THAT CENTO
POLICY DOCUMENTS ALREADY COVER THE ALLIANCE'S NEEDS
ALTHOUGH WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER RPT CONSIDER REVISIONS
WHICH HAVE THE AGREEMENT OF THE OTHER CENTO PARTICIPANTS.

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2. DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON TURKISH PROPOSALS FOR REVISION

OF PARAGRAPHS 15, 16 AND 17 OF REVISION THREE ARE AS
FOLLOWS:

PARA 15:

WE AGREE WITH THE TURKISH PROPOSAL TO SUBSTITUTE "THE
MILITARY STRENGTH OF THE CENTO COUNTRIES" FOR "THE MILITARY
STRENGTH OF CENTO". THE REMAINDER OF THE TURKISH SUBSTI-
TUTE LANGUAGE, HOWEVER, CAUSES PROBLEMS FOR US. WE ARE
CONCERNED THAT SUPPORTING SUCH LANGUAGE WOULD COMMIT THE
U.S. AT THE OUTSET TO ACCEPT DECISIONS REACHED BY THE
MILITARY COMMITTEE ON WHAT THE REGIONAL MEMBERS PERCEIVE
TO BE THEIR REQUIREMENTS FOR A CREDIBLE DETERRENT. THAT
THIS IS THE INTENT OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT SEEMS CLEAR
FROM THE LANGUAGE OF SUBPARAGRAPH F OF THE PROPOSED
REVISION TO PARAGRAPH 15. (COMMENT: WE MUCH PREFER THE
LANGUAGE OF PARAGRAPH 15 IN REVISION 2.)

PARA 16:

IN KEEPING WITH THE U.S.'S LONGSTANDING POLICY TOWARD
CENTO (SEE SEPTTEL) U.S. REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD REMAIN ALERT
TO ONGOING EFFORTS OF REGIONAL MEMBERS (AS REFLECTED IN
TURKISH PROPOSED LANGUAGE IN SUBPARAGRAPH C) DESIGNED TO
BROADEN THE NATURE OF THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO INCLUDE
COUNTRIES "WHICH ARE LIKELY TO BE FRIENDLY TO, OR UNDER
THE INFLUENCE OF, THE SOVIET UNION," AND SHOULD NOT
SUPPORT THE TURKISH REVISION. ON THE INCLUSION BY THE
TURKS OF SPECIFIC GUIDANCE FOR CONTINGENCY PLANNING IN
THIS PARAGRAPH, WE WOULD MUCH PREFER HOLDING TO THE MORE
GENERAL STATEMENT IN REVISION 2. U.S. REPRESENTATIVE,
THEREFORE, SHOULD COORDINATE WITH UK COLLEAGUE ON HOW
BEST TO BLOCK SPECIFICITY URGED BY TURKS.

PARA 17:

"WARS BY PROXY". U.S. REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD ADHERE TO
GUIDANCE IN STATE 296294 (DECEMBER 16, 1975) WHICH NOTED
THAT THIS PARAGRAPH INVOLVES INTRAREGIONAL OR INTERNAL
CONTINGENCY WHICH IS NOT WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF CENTO.
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THE ELIMINATION OF THE WORD "PROXIES" FROM TURKISH
REVISION 3 IN NO WAY ALTERS THE SUBSTANCE OF THE TURKISH
PROPOSAL. AGAIN, WE MUCH PREFER THE LANGUAGE OFFERED IN
REVISION 2. ROBINSON

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